

**BIRD CREEK RANCH CONSERVATION EASEMENT
FACT SHEET
APRIL 2007**

FWP requests the approval of the Board of Land Commissioners for the acquisition of a conservation easement on the 2,292-acre Bird Creek Ranch property. The 2,292- acre Bird Creek Ranch is located 4 miles downstream (north) of Cascade in Cascade County. The Bird Creek Ranch possesses riparian, emergent and forested wetlands, shrub and native grassland communities important to many wildlife species, including deer, antelope, upland game birds, waterfowl and numerous non-game wildlife species. Three miles of Missouri River frontage is utilized as the west and north property boundaries. This is a conservation easement partnership proposal as described below. Partners are USDA Farm and Ranch Protection Program (\$398,000), PPL Montana (\$50,000), landowner donation (\$102,000), and FWP (550,000), for a total value of \$1,100,000.

REQUESTED ACTION: > **Approval of CE Acquisition**

OWNER: > **Cindy Kittredge**

**PROPERTY RIGHT
TO BE ACQUIRED:** > **Conservation Easement**

PROPERTY DATA: > **Property located in Cascade County, Montana
Township 18 North, Range 01 East**

COST and FUNDING SOURCES: > **\$550,000 Habitat Montana
\$398,000 FRPP
\$102,000 Landowner Donation
\$ 50,000 PPL**

PROCESS: > **Draft Environmental Assessment distributed**
> **30-day comment period ended 02/16/07**
> **Decision Notice issued 03/02/07**
> **FWP Commission Approval 03/29/07**